

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry "documentary" days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. This is not acceptable.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the company and the powerful, wealthy people that run it and less of what we need for our democracy. By permitting Sinclair to air this "documentary", the FCC is allowing an illegal use of our common airwaves for the political gain of the Bush-Cheney campaign while showing the American people that money not democracy talks.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

Thank you.

Theresa Pichtel